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Agenda Item: 2B

Meeting Date: June 15, 2006

CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA AUTHORITY

December 20, 2005
650 Capitol Mall, Bay-Delta Room
Sacramento, California

MEETING SUMMARY

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS - INTRODUCTION / ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Chairman Gary Hunt called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. A quorum was established at that time.

Public – Paula Daniels, representing the Southern California Region; Alfred Montna, representing the Sacramento Valley Region; Bill Jones, representing the San Joaquin Valley Region; and Marc Holmes and Daniel Wheeler, Members-At-Large.

Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee Representative – Gary Hunt

State –Michael Chrisman, Secretary for Resources; Lester Snow, Director of the Department of Water Resources; Ryan Broddrick, Director of the Department of Fish and Game and designee, Greg Hurner; A.G. Kawamura, Secretary for Food and Agriculture; and Dave Spath, designee for Sandra Shewry, Director of the Department of Health Services.

Federal – Jason Peltier for Gale Norton, Secretary of the Interior; Alan Oto, designee for Kirk Rodgers, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Michael Acetunio for Rodney McInnis, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, National Marine Fisheries Services; and Susan Moore for Steve Thompson, Manager of California-Nevada Operations Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ex-Officio – Alf Brandt for Assembly Member Lois Wolk, Chair of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

2. REVITALIZING CALFED – REVISED 10-YEAR ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK

Chairman Hunt indicated that the Authority would continue through 2006 until legislation enacting CALFED governance takes effect, probably January 1, 2007. A lengthy discussion revolved around key issues in the proposed 10-Year Action Plan Framework

identified during the last meeting (December 8), including: governance; refocusing issues, including the Habitat Conservation Plans/Natural Communities Conservation Plans (HCP/NCCP) process and CALFED v. integrated regional water management (IRWM) actions; and the beneficiary-pays issue.

There was considerable discussion about the structure, composition and authorities of the body that would replace the Authority within the proposed framework of the California Water Commission (CWC). Members proposed numerous scenarios during a lengthy discussion.

Additionally, there was lengthy discussion on the issue of an HCP/NCCP for the Sacramento River, which was resolved by focusing initially on an HCP/NCCP for the Delta and then subsequently for the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers to allow concerned parties to watch the process evolve. The issue of coordinated (previously IRWM) v. direct CALFED actions was discussed and members were generally satisfied with the restatement of this framework component outside of a discussion about separating components of Conveyance and Storage between the two categories.

Finally, there was a discussion of the progress made toward the principle of beneficiary pays, noting progress has been made in principle through the recent negotiations process with users and agreement on the proposed use of the HCP/NCCP process. Chairman Hunt suggested that legislation would be needed to go further in the area of beneficiary pays. Alf Brandt said a key area to be resolved is a clear understanding of who the beneficiaries are.

A series of motions resulted from the discussion that would be incorporated into the 10-Year Action Plan Framework. It was moved, seconded and adopted to recommend:

- Development of a voluntary Planning Agreement and HCP/NCCP for the Delta and subsequently consider Sacramento River and San Joaquin River HCPs/NCCPs; and make other minor changes to the text reflecting the change in the title for the HCP/NCCP. This motion was adopted by a roll-call vote of 10-1-2.
- To the Secretary for Resources, for his consideration as he develops recommendations for the Governor, the creation of an independent oversight function utilizing the existing CWC in restructured form, and further that the Secretary consider the following:
 - CWC be constituted of public members with various fields of expertise and regional representation.
 - CWC be authorized to elect its own chair and that the Independent Science Board report to this body; that the scope of CWC include oversight over the coordinated CALFED program areas as well as the Delta-centric CALFED

program areas; and that a conflict resolution program be developed with a component of it dedicated to Environmental Justice issues.

- CWC have the authority to recommend approval of grants for CALFED programs to the Secretary for Resources; that it have programmatic budget review and an annual progress and balance review; and that CWC focus on the goals and objectives of the program, on performance measures and adaptive management and that it consider as part of this developing specific requirements that synch with the legislative calendar with appropriate policy-making decision timelines.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments were offered by Dr. Henry Clark, Executive Director of the West County Toxics Coalition in Richmond, California; Gary Mulcahy of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe; and Gary Bobker of The Bay Institute. Issues raised concerned Environmental Justice, coordination with Federal counterparts and oversight of the Program by the California Water Commission.

Comments offered by Tim Quinn of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California supported the HCP/NCCP process.

LaDonna Williams of the People for Children's Health and Environmental Justice said her organization opposes the process because it was rushed and did not provide for adequate public participation; additionally, she continues to feel that Environmental Justice is misunderstood.

David Houts of the Zone 7 Water Agency, which supplies water to four water retailers: Dublin San Ramon Services District, Cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, and California Water Service Company, commented on a letter submitted by his agency's General Manager, Dale Myers, stating that beneficiaries be identified and long-term fair-share funding be established. David Breninger of the Placer County Water Agency asked for clarification on what benefits his agency received and what portion they are to pay.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.